

Application Serial No. 10/686,373
Amendment dated September 14, 2005
Reply to Office Action of March 14, 2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the first full paragraph beginning on page 7, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring now to Fig. 2A, it will be seen that shell 12 includes a side wall 34 and a head end end wall 36. Each side wall 34 and head end end wall 36 includes a respective upper edge 34a, 36a, respectively. Collectively upper edges 34a, 36a form an upper edge or flange of shell 12. Decorative shell edge cover 32 is illustrated as having been fabricated in two mitered parts, a side portion 32a and an end portion 32b. As illustrated, the edge cover 32 is elongated, being relatively narrow in comparison to its length, and preferably conceals only the edge of the shell 12, i.e. is preferably no wider than the upwardly flange or edge of the shell 12. Edge cover 32 is preferably fabricated from a rigid, or at least semi-rigid, material, such as plastic, cardboard, wood or metal; edge cover 32 could even be fabricated from simply a strip of heavily starched fabric so as to be semi-rigid. A plastic edge cover 32 could be fabricated by, for example, molding or extruding. If cardboard, edge cover 32 could be covered with decorative fabric, painted or otherwise printed with decorative surface ornamentation. If casket 10 is fabricated of metal, the shell edge may carry a rubber gasket 33 (Fig. 3B) for sealing between the shell 12 and lid 14. In that case the edge cover 32 conceals the gasket 33.